



## **Rear Admiral Lindell G. Rutherford Deputy Commander for Training**

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Rear Admiral “Yank” Rutherford graduated in May 1971 from the University of Missouri, Rolla with a Bachelor of Science degree in Engineering. He attended Aviation Officer Candidate School in Pensacola, Florida, and was commissioned in March 1972. He received his “Wings of Gold” in June 1973 at Naval Air Station Kingsville, Texas.

After flying the A-4 "SKYHAWK" with VC-7 at Naval Air Station Miramar, California, Rear Admiral Rutherford transitioned to the F-4 "PHANTOM" in November 1975 and joined VF-111, deploying in USS FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT (CV 42) to the Mediterranean Sea.

After deployment he transitioned to the F-14 "TOMCAT" and deployed to the Western Pacific and Indian Ocean in USS KITTY HAWK (CV 63). In August 1980, he joined VF-101 as an F-14 instructor pilot and was selected as the 1983 East Coast Fighter Pilot of the Year. Rear Admiral Rutherford reported to VF-102 in August 1983, deploying to the North Atlantic Ocean and Mediterranean Sea in USS AMERICA (CV 66). During his tour, the "DIAMONDBACKS" participated in the Libyan air strikes. In June 1986 he returned to VF-101 as the Operations Officer.

Rear Admiral Rutherford joined the VF-142 "GHOSTRIDERS" in June 1987 as the Executive Officer and took command in October 1988. During his tour he deployed to the Mediterranean Sea and Indian Ocean in USS DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER (CVN 69). In March 1990 he reported to the Commander Carrier Group EIGHT staff and deployed in USS THEODORE ROOSEVELT (CVN 71), participating in Operations DESERT SHIELD and DESERT STORM. After completion of nuclear power training in May 1993, Rear Admiral Rutherford served as the Executive Officer, USS THEODORE ROOSEVELT (CVN 71), deploying twice to the Mediterranean Sea and Arabian Gulf.

From June 1995 to November 1996, Rear Admiral Rutherford commanded USS SEATTLE (AOE 3), completing a Mediterranean deployment as a part of the THEODORE ROOSEVELT Battle Group. In May 1997 Rear Admiral Rutherford reported aboard USS GEORGE WASHINGTON (CVN 73) where he served as Commanding Officer until November 1999. Under his command, WASHINGTON won the Navy's coveted Battle "E" Award, Battenburg Cup, Flatley Award, and the Golden Anchor Award. In November 1999, Rear Admiral Rutherford reported to the Staff of the Commander in Chief, U.S. Atlantic Fleet where he served as Director for Operations, Plans, Policy, and Training and was promoted to flag rank in January 2000. Rear Admiral Rutherford assumed command of Carrier Group FOUR on 21 August 2001.

Rear Admiral Rutherford's decorations include the Legion of Merit (with three Gold Stars), the Meritorious Service Medal (with four Gold Stars), the Navy Commendation Medal (with three Gold Stars), and various unit decorations. He has accumulated over 4,300 flight hours and 900 carrier

arrested landings.

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